

Application/Control Number: 09/981,000

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Claims

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1.(AMENDED) In a stand-alone internet receiver [(32)] for receiving NTSC program information including program guide information and internet data, coupled to a stand-alone digital video receiver [(10)] for receiving program information including program guide information, a method for forming a combined program guide comprising the steps of:

providing the internet receiver [(10)] with a communications input/output port [(56)];

linking [(66)] the communications input/output port [(30)] of the digital video receiver with the communications input/output port of the internet receiver;

providing the internet receiver with the program guide information received by the digital video receiver through the communications ports; and

integrating the digital video program guide information with the NTSC program guide information on the internet receiver to obtain a combined program guide for viewing on a display device [(48)].

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the digital video receiver receives program guide information via a digital data stream, and the internet receiver receives program guide information via the VBI of an analog signal.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of linking the communications input/output port of the digital video receiver with the communications input/output port of the internet receiver may include establishing a low speed data communications bus and a high speed data bus.

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4. The method of claim 3, wherein the high speed data bus is clocked by a signal from the digital video receiver.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the digital video receiver comprising a DBS receiver.

6.(AMENDED) In a stand-alone DBS receiver [(10)] for receiving DBS program information coupled to a stand-alone internet receiver [(32)] for receiving internet data, a method of delivering internet content to the display device comprising the steps of:

receiving a DBS data stream including internet content data;

processing the DBS data stream;

providing a data link [(66)] between the DBS receiver and the internet receiver;

transmitting the internet content data in the DBS data stream to the internet receiver [(32)] through the data link, wherein the internet content data is processed by the internet receiver and displayed on a display device [(48)].

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the DBS data stream includes digital video, the method further comprising the step of:

providing the DBS video to the internet receiver.

displaying the interactive content data on the display device.

8. The method of claim 6 wherein the data link is a wide-band data link.